

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4, 12, 22 and 23 remain pending in this application. Claims 4 and 13-15 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1, 12 and 22 are independent.

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as being anticipated over Applicant Admitted Prior Art (AAPA); Claims 2 and 4 are rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over AAPA in view of US Patent No. 5,802,132 (Pathikonda); Claims 3, 12 and 13 stand rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over AAPA, Pathikonda and US Patent No. 5,802,132 (Swoboda); and Claims 14, 15 22 and 23 stand rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over AAPA in view of US Patent No. 5,471,587 (Fernando). Applicant respectfully traverses.

The Examiner states that Pathikonda teaches a mask generator circuit at col. 4, lines 40-65. Applicants respectfully disagree. Nowhere does Pathikonda teach or suggest a mask generator circuit to compute and generate masking signals for cross over logic as stated in the independent claims. Therefore the prior art fails to teach or disclose a mask generator circuit as recited in the independent claims.

In summary, for the reasons noted above, Claims 1-3, 12, 22 and 23 are distinguished over the cited art and are in condition for allowance. It is respectfully submitted that in view of the amendments and arguments set forth herein, the applicable rejections and objections have been overcome. Favorable action is respectfully solicited. Allowance of the Claims is respectfully requested.

Please charge any additional charges to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

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